1 know, so I think it was all day. 2 Q. Okay. And do you recall approximately how many 3 students were on the trip? 4 A. I really don't. 5 Q. Do you recall whether it was just the student council kids or whether it was other classes or groups? 6 7 I really don't know. 8 Chebray was on the trip and Starp was on the trip? Q. 9 A. Um-hum. 10 Q. Stage, of course. 11 A. Um-hum. 12 And do you recall any other students who might Q. 13 have been on the trip? 14 I mean, just -- I know -- I know Clarkery had a A. friend, that they actually helped organize the event. And 15 16 that was Samb House. 17 Q. Okay. 18 But I don't remember anybody else. A. 19 · Q. Did the bus leave from Rice Avenue Middle School? 20 Can't recall. 21 I think so. I don't know. A. 22 And that's Pleasant Ridge Manor on Route 20 in Q. 23 Girard? 24 A. Yes. 25 Now, during that excursion, I understand that you Q.

Case 1.04-07-00 100-00191 - DO

observed some interaction between Yarbenet and Ms. that caused you concern. Could you tell me what that was.

- A. Well, I can tell you what I remember now. I mean, it's been six or seven years.
  - Q. I understand.

A. I remember now that it -- whatever I saw concerned me to the point that I felt that I needed to talk to somebody about it. I felt that their behavior -- his behavior with her, their behavior together, was not appropriate for a student and a teacher. A lot of -- like they sat together on the bus. I kind of kept an eye, because kind of had a -- you know, a red flag. And so I kept an eye during the day.

I don't really remember any physical touching, you know. But a lot of closeness in their talking, and almost like a flirting back and forth, I guess you would say. And they were together most of the day, that I saw. I mean, I wasn't with them all day. But whenever I would notice, and they were -- I just didn't feel it was appropriate behavior.

- Q. Okay. And I take it you saw them sitting together -- was it on the bus, or when they arrived, or both?
- A. No, it was on the -- now, this is what I remember.

  But I remember them -- I don't remember the ride home. It

  was the -- it was actually the way there that concerned -- I

mean, right off the bat, I noticed something. 1 2 And do you recall whether they sat together on the 0. 3 way home? 4 A. I don't. 5 Okay. But what you saw is a student sitting next Q. to a teacher, that was a red flag. And that prompted you to 6 watch them more carefully during the day? 7 Yeah. It wasn't just that they were sitting in 8 A. the same seat. It was more than that. 9 10 Q. Okay. No, I understand. 11 Because, if I remember correctly, the bus was Α. pretty full. So, I mean, it wouldn't have been unusual for 12 a teacher to be sitting with a student. 13 14 Do you recall anything else about their Q. Okay. interaction that caused you concern, other than they were 15 sitting together? They seemed, what, too close? Was 16 17 that --18 It's hard to explain. It just was not your normal . A. student/teacher talking interaction. It was more of, like I 19 said, a flirting-type thing. Just a close -- that was 20 beyond what it should be. 21 22 Q. Do you recall any --I don't know how to explain it. 23 Α. 24 Do you recall any physical contact at all between Q. 25 the two?

1	A. I don't, to be honest with you. I don	't remember
2	any physical touching.	
3	Q. Were you able to overhear any of the co	onwerentien

- Q. Were you able to overhear any of the conversation between the two?
  - A. No, not that I remember.
- Q. You had indicated that what you did observe prompted you to want to discuss it with someone. Did you, in fact, discuss it with someone?
  - A. Yes, I did.

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- Q. With whom did you discuss the matter?
- A. Gayla DeMarco.
- Q. When did you discuss this with Ms. DeMarco?
- A. During lunch there at Pleasant Ridge.
  - Q. Did you sit together, I take it, at lunch?
  - A. I'm not sure if -- I think we did. But I know I went up to her, if I didn't sit with her, during the lunchtime. And I, you know, expressed to her what I had seen, and that I didn't feel -- I felt something was not right.
    - Q. What did Ms. DeMarco say in response, if anything?
  - A. She told me that Mr. Yarbenet was a family friend, and that they knew each other outside of school. And that he -- you know, so that might explain their closeness, that they were friends, friends of the family. And that he was not a traditional teacher. That might not be the exact

1	word, but something to that. That he was very close with
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4	<b>₹</b>
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6	not want one of my daughters to be that friendly with a man
7	even if it was a family friend.
8	Q. Okay. Do you recall anything else from that
9	conversation with Ms. DeMarco?
10	A. I really don't.
11	Q. Did you ever have any discussions with
12	Mrs. concerning what you had observed that day?
13	A. No, not at that time. She called me and this
14	is I'm trying to remember this. Somebody and I don't
15	even remember who when all of this came out into the
16	open, had told her I had mentioned it to someone. And I
17	can't remember now who it even was. But they told her that
18	I had a concern way back when. And she called me and asked
19	me if I would be willing to give a statement.
20	Q. Okay.
21	A. And I did, to the police, at that time. But
22	that's the only time I've ever that I remember ever
23	talking to her.
24	(Scott Deposition Exhibit 1 marked for
25	identification.)

1 Q. And I can make a photocopy of this. This is just -- want to note that. Let me show you what we will 2 mark as Exhibit 1 to your deposition. And just ask you, 3 Ms. Scott, is that the statement to which you just referred? 4 5 I don't have my glasses on, but. A. 6 Q. I have the same problem. 7 MR. OLDS: Do you need us to read? 8 A. No, it's good. That sounds like it. Okay. Do you know approximately when you provided 9 Q. this statement? 10 11 A. I really don't. Okay. And to whom did you provide this statement? 12 Q. Did you give this to Mrs. or to the police directly? 13 14 No, it was the police officer. But I don't know 15 who it was. 16 Q. Okay. I don't even remember if it was over the phone or 17 · A. 18 in person. I don't remember. 19 Now, I don't know whether his testimony was Q. mistaken or -- but let me just ask you, see if this jogs any 20 recollection. There was some testimony by -- I believe it 21 was Mr. That while he was home his wife had gotten 22 a call. And there were some indication that it might have 23 been from you. And this is well before the controversy 24 broke. Do you have any recollection of speaking with 25

1	Mrs. on the telephone about anything?
2	A. No, I really don't.
3	Q. Do you know Mrs. at all?
4	A. No.
5	Q. Okay.
6	A. I mean, I know who she is, but I don't know her at
7	all. I don't remember ever talking to her. Only the time
8	when she called me. Maybe I forget. But I doubt that I
9	would forget that.
10	Q. Okay. Did you ever discuss your feelings or what
11	you observed on this particular field trip with anyone
12	associated with the School District other than Ms. DeMarco?
13	A. No, not to my I don't remember ever talking to
14	anybody about her.
15	Q. Okay. What about Bob Snyder; have you ever talked
16	to Bob Snyder?
17	A. No.
18	Q. Or Greg McClelland? Wally Blucas, the
19	superintendent?
20	A. Hum-um.
21	MR. OLDS: It's best if you say no, as opposed to
22	hum-um.
23	A. Okay. She can't write that too good.
24	Q. In response to that litany of names I just threw
25	at you, was your response what was your response to each
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Uqoc 1.U+-Uv-UU 1UU-UJIVI DOCUMENT AC 1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA 2 3 STACY S.; and JOHN AND MARY ELLEN S., on behalf of their daughter, LEIGH ANN S., a minor, Plaintiffs HONORABLE SEAN J. MCLAUGHLIN 4 5 6 Civil Action No. 04-150E GIRARD SCHOOL DISTRICT;
ROBERT SNYDER, Individually
and in his capacity as
Principal of the Rice
Avenue Middle School; and
GREGORY VARBENET, a
professional employee of
the Girard School
District,
Defendant 7 8 9 10 11 Jury Trial Demanded 12 13 14 15 Deposition of GAYLA DEMARCO, taken before 16 and by Sonya Hoffman, Notary Public in and for the 17 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on May 26, 2005, 18 commencing at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of Knox 19 McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C., 120 West 20 Tenth Street, Erie, PA 16507. 21 22 23 24 25 Reported by Sonya Hoffman Ferguson & Holdmack Reporting, Inc.

GAYLA DEMARCO, first having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. OLDS:

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- Q. Good morning, Ms. DeMarco, how are you?
- I'm fine. Thank you. ۸.
- Q. I'm Ed Olds and I represent State Mand As you probably know, they have sued

the School District concerning what happened to them resulting from Mr. Yarbenet's sexual -- his sexual assault.

And we're going to take your deposition to see what your knowledge is of the facts relevant to that case, okay?

- And I guess the I assume that you've had a Q. chance to talk to counsel about this deposition.
  - A. Yes. I have.
- Q. Do you understand that you're represented by this law firm or are you here unrepresented?
  - A. I'm represented.
  - Q. And who is your lawyer?
  - A. Mr. Lanzillo.
  - Q. And have you hired Mr. Lanzillo?

1 APPEARANCES For the Plaintiffs: 3 Edward A. Olds, Esquire 1007 Mount Royal Boulevard Pittsburgh, PA 15223 4 5 Richard A. Lanzillo, Esquire Neil R. Devlin, Esquire Knex McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C. 120 West Tenth Street Erie, PA 16507 6 7 8 q 10 11 INDEX 12 13 GAYLA DEMARCO 14 Direct Examination by Mr. Olds . . . . . . . . . . 3 15 16 17 EXHIBITS 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

No, I have not.

Q. Have you ever entered into a fee agreement with

him?

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Q. Can you tell me why you think he's your lawyer?

A. He's -- I'm an employee of the Girard School District and he is our solicitor.

Q. You're not a management employee, are you; are you in management?

A. No, I'm not.

MR. DEVLIN: Objection to form.

- O. Are you in the Teacher's Union?
- A.
- Q. Okay. So you have -- aside from the fact that Mr. Lanzillo represents the School District, you haven't entered a separate agreement with him to represent you: is that correct?
  - A. Would you explain your question.
- Q. Have you contacted Mr. Lanzillo to represent you in connection with this case?
- Okay. And so at your request, I think, your sister is sitting in this deposition?
  - Yes.
  - And I don't mind accommodating those kind of

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Q. Did any police officer in terms of investigating the criminal charges against Mr. Yarbenet meet with you?

- Q. And you don't recall that Kelly Remain came to you and told you that Gregory Yarbenet was sexually molesting her daughter?
  - A. No, I do not recall.
  - Okay. Q.
- A. As I said earlier, I do not know of this person or her daughter, therefore, I don't recall the situation at
- Q. Of course, if she came to you, that wouldn't be something that you would forget: would it?
- A. I have a responsibility and I take my job very seriously. If a parent -- a student had come to me with that kind of information, I would have immediately gone to my supervisor as I did the morning that Leigh Ame had shared that information with me.
- Q. Of course, Light Ame came to you after Gregory Yarbenet was in jail or after he had been removed from the School District?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And after the criminal charges against him had been filed, after he'd been arrested, right?
  - A. Yes.

- Q. Now, did you get back to the faculty lounge very frequently?

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- Q. Would teachers come to your office during the course of the day to discuss issues that they had to deal with?
- Okay. On a given day, how many? I mean, would you -- on a normal day would you expect you would have interactions with teachers more than 10 times?

  - Q. Now, you indicated that you recall meeting with s mother at IEP meetings.
  - A. Yes.
  - Who else attended those IEP meetings? Q.
  - The gifted teacher, Mary Werling. A.
  - Who else?
  - And the parent.
- Do you recall that Gregory Yarbenet attended an IEP meeting regarding Semy once?
  - A. No, I do not recall.
- Q. You searched -- apparently, someone searched, did you produce these records, the document that's been marked as Exhibit No. 1?
  - A. That had been done through my office and then a

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- Q. And so in your April meeting with Mr. Lanzillo. you told Mr. Lanzillo that you didn't recall Kelly
  - That's correct.
- Q. In terms of the faculty members that you might -going back to the time period 1998 to 2002, did you socialize with any other faculty members outside the school?
- A. In terms of Christmas parties, end-of-the-year picnic, yes.
- Q. Did you socialize with faculty members in the school, for instance, eat lunch with the same faculty -same group of faculty members or anything like that?
  - A. Not very often, no.
- Q. Okay. Would you -- so you would eat lunch in your office or something?
  - A. That's correct, when I would take a lunch.
- Q. Would you be in the -- when the teachers congregated, would it be at the teacher's lounge?
  - A. Yes.
  - Where was that located? Q.
- At the opposite end of the main office in the Α. building.
- Q. So that was in the main office complex, but not close to where your office was?
- A. No. The faculty lounge is at the opposite end of the building from where I am in my office.

copy was given to Mr. Lanzillo.

- Q. Okay. And did you search for the records involving any other students?
- And after you talked to Mr. Lanzillo about Kelly and her daughter, did you search the records for any information about her or them?
- It is my understanding that the District had done A. that.
- A. And could not find any records on that student, as being a student in our building.
- Q. So the student -- did you know that was a foster child?
- A. I do not know the student, therefore, I would not now that she's a foster child."
- Q. Okay. Do you recall whether you ever had any dealings with -- strike that. When you would have the IEP meetings with Stacy and Ms. Werling -- excuse me, Samy's mother, Ms. Werling, and you, who chaired those meetings?
  - I would.
- O. Now, were those meetings open to other faculty members? Could anyone come into those meetings?
- A. At the time if another teacher wanted to I suppose we could have invited them, yes.

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don't recall reporting it now, okay? Let's just suppose

- Q. Okay. Have you had a chance to read it?
- A. Yes.

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- Q. After reading it, did it refresh your recollection at all about the interactions you had with Ms. Scott that day on this trip to Pleasant Ridge Manor?
- A. This does not juggle my memory whatsoever. I do not recall this incident whatsoever.
- Q. Do you have any what are your responsibilities, if any, insofar as either making observations about or collecting data or information about teacher conduct that might be inappropriate relative to students?
- A. I'm not so sure I understand your question. What are you saying as inappropriate? As she's stating here, giggling -- would you please rephrase that.
- Q. Well, my question was, do you have any obligation, either statutory or arising out of any teacher handbooks concerning either the collection of information about inappropriate teacher/student conduct or making observations about such conduct?

MR. DEVLIN: You're asking just in general.
MR. OLDS: I'm asking if she has any duties in that area.

- A. I would be required by law, if I felt there were any inappropriate behavior, to contact authorities.
  - Q. And do you understand that's statutory law? Or

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If you had reported it, would you have made or entered information on the computer similar to the information about Leigh Ass, which was marked as Exhibit No. 1?

MR. DEVLIN: I'm going to object to the form, you can answer the question.

THE WITNESS: Pardon me?

MR. DEVLIN: I'm just objecting to the form of the question, my basis for the objection calls for speculation. You can answer the question.

A. I just needed clarification. I apologize. Supposing that I had reported this?

Q. Yes.

A. I certainly would have documented it.

(DeMarco Deposition Exhibit No. 4 marked for identification.)

Q. I'm going to mark this as Exhibit No. 4. I don't know if you've ever seen this document, but it's a document that we provided to counsel for the School District, and it's a statement signed by Cynthia Scott. Have you ever seen this document, Ms. DeMarco?

A. No, I have not.

Q. Why don't you take a little time and read it.

A. (Witness complies.)

'you say you're required by law, do you know what law that is?

- A. No, I do not know the meaning of the law.
- Q. Is there a is there a teacher handbook at the Girard Area School District?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. What kind of information is contained in the teacher handbook?
- A. The school rules, expectations of the faculty, general information about our responsibilities in the building.
- Q. Okay. You looked at Ms. Scott's statement and in the context of my question about what your duties were relative to collecting data concerning teachers, and you looked at that and you looked at her statement; do you think that her statement does not describe inappropriate conduct?
- A. Well, I think this is rather objective. I think this is just an opinion based on what she's perceiving.

  Teacher's might have been giggling with other students. I mean, I don't --
- , Q. He writes, "Yarbenet's attention was devoted solely to Stacy the entire day," do you think that's appropriate conduct for a teacher?
  - A. No, it would not be.
  - Q. But you do not recall her pointing that out to

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

: HONORABLE SEAN J. MCLAUGHLIN

Civil Action No. 04-150E

Jury Trial Demanded

Deposition of GREGG MCCLELLAND, taken before and by Sonya Hoffman, Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on May 26, 2005, commencing at 1:09 p.m., at the offices of Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C., 120 West Tenth Street, Erie, PA 16507.

Reported by Sonya Hoffman Ferguson & Holdnack Reporting, Inc.

GREGG MCCLELLAND, first having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. OLDS:

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- Q. Mr. McClelland, I want to apologize for keeping you waiting here. Sorry we got hung up and I want to apologize. I really hate to wait myself, so if you're Irritated, I can understand it, and accept my apology and I'll try not to have that happen again, okay?
  - A. Okay.
- Q. You're employed with the Girard School District now; is that right?
  - That's correct. A.
  - Q. And what is your current position?
  - High school principal. Α.
  - How long have you worked for Girard? 0.
  - A. Since January of '99.
  - Okay. Where did you work before that?
- At St. Mary's School District. I was a high school guidance counselor for one and a half years and the middle school guidance counselor for four years.
  - And what's your educational background?
  - Bachelor's degree from Edinboro University In

1 APPEARANCES 2 For the Plaintiffs: 3 Edward A. Olds, Esquire 1007 Mount Royal Boulevard Pittsburgh, PA 15223 4 5 For the Defendants: 6 Richard A. Lanzillo, Esquire Neil R. Deviln, Esquire Knox McLaughlin, Gornall & Sennett, P.C. 120 West Tenth Street Erle, PA 16507 7 8 9 10 11 INDEX 12 13 GREGG MCCLELLAND 14 15 16 17 EXHIBITS 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

history. Master's degree in student personnel services and then a guidance certificate from Edinboro. And then secondary administration certificate from Edinboro. And superintendent's certificate from Westminister College.

- Q. And what kind of courses or what kind of work do you have to do to get those administrative certificates, the secondary certificate and the superintendent certificate?
- A. There's courses about physical plant, learning about taking care of buildings, high schools. Financial classes, how to do budgets, administrative courses.
- Q. Before you worked for St. Mary's, were you working In the educational field?
  - A. No. I was in the United States Navy.
- Q. And what was your -- tell me a little bit about your time in the service. What were you ranks and what did you do?
- A. I was an E-4 Petty Officer, Third Class. And I was a Galla linguist.
  - Q. What kind of linguist?
  - A. It's a language spoken in the Phillipines.
  - And how long were you in the Navy? Q.
  - A. For four years and nine months.
  - And are you from -- were you born in this area? Q.
  - In Platea, which is about five miles from Girard.
  - Q. And St. Mary's, where is that located?

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Document 32-6

1	Q. Did you ever observe the lights not being on in	
2	his room?	
3	A. When class was going on, once in a while he may be	
4	showing a film or the TV was on if they were watching a	
5	video about a science topic.	
6	Q. Would you interact with Mr. Yarbenet on a daily	
7	basis?	
8	A. Not on a daily basis, πο.	
9	Q. On a weekly basis?	
10	A. Weekly, yes.	
11	Q. And when you interacted with him, would it just be	
12	because you happened to encounter him in the hallway or I	
1.3	mean, tell me the occasion.	
14	A. That would usually be the occasion. If I was	
15	doing hall duty when classes were changing and I'd walk by	
16	and he was out in the hall supervising, I would say hello to	
17	him.	
18	Q. When were teachers assigned hall duty? I mean,	
19	how did that was that a rotating thing, the hall duty?	
20	<ul> <li>A. No. We just asked them if they could periodically</li> </ul>	
21	step out into the hall when classes were changing, but there	
22	was no set schedule for them to be out there.	
23	Q. What were your impressions of Yarbenet outside the	

classroom? In other words, when you observed him with

students outside the academic setting, what were your

didn't, that tells me that she was a good student and she didn't get in trouble discipline-wise. And that was -- when I met with -- excuse me, when I met with students, that's usually when it was, was because of disciplinary reasons.

- Q. Do you recall whether you ever saw her alone with Yarbenet?
- Q. What about Least Am, did you ever see her alone with Yarbenet?
- Q. Did you ever see her in his room when no other students were there, just her?
- Q. When you came to the School District and you met with Mr. Snyder, was there ever an occasion where you and he discussed the different faculty members, their personalities, their strong points, their weak points, that he sort of highlighted those kinds of issues for you?
  - A. Not that I recall.
  - Q. Do you remember Greg Senyo?
  - A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Did Greg Senyo talk to you about lights being unscrewed in the closet behind Yarbenet's room?
  - A. No.
  - Q. You say that he didn't?

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Impressions of him? A. Well-liked. I just thought he was goofy, that's why the middle school kids liked him. They would come to him in the hall and say hello, things like that. He was popular with the kids. Q. What did he do that makes you characterize him as goofy? Maybe changing his voice when he talked to some of the kids, you know, it makes them laugh, puts them at ease. He was animated when he would talk at times with them. 10 Q. Was he oftentimes surrounded by girls when you saw 11 him in the hallway? 12 Not always. I saw him with boys and girls. 13 Okay. Were there occasions when you saw him 14 surrounded by girls, however? 15 Maybe one or two that I can recall. 16 Do you remember Strey No, I don't. 18 Do you think you ever saw Stam/? 19 Yes. I would have seen her in the school. 20 But you don't remember her? 21 Q. 22 You never had any like one-on-one meetings with 23 0. 24 her? Not that I recall. She would have been - If I 25

1 No. Do you remember Karen Kwiatkowski? 2 Q. KK, yes, I do. 3 Did she talk to you about her concerns about 4 5 Yarbenet? A. Not that I recall. 6 Q. So you don't recall ever having a conversation with her where she told you that she felt that Yarbenet had an inappropriate relationship with Stacy? A. No. 10 How about with Leish Ass? 11 Q. 12 No. Q. Did you ever meet with Yarbenet concerning any 13 complaints that you had received about him? 14 A. Yes, i did. 15 Q. Okay. On how many occasions did you meet with 16 17 Yarbenet? A. I know one for sure, and two at the most. 18 Q. Now, were these meetings, did they just involve 19 you and Yarbenet or was Mr. Snyder there? 20 Mr. Snyder was there. 21 22 Q. So there were three people at the meeting? 23 Now, you say you remember one for sure; what was 24 the topic of that meeting?

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lady's name, she was an adult that had went -- or was at Pleasant Ridge Manor in the spring, I believe, it was 2001, it was a field trip, some of our students had went down there.

And she wanted to report that she felt uneasy seeing Mr. Yarbenet and Ms. sitting away from the rest of the students at a picnic table during lunch that day. She said that she did not see him touch her or do anything inappropriate, but they were -- she just felt uneasy because they were sitting side by side and talking very close, and she just thought that it was strange to see.

Q. Did you ask the woman to identify herself?

A. I received a phone call, and I don't recall the

- A. At that point she did. Like I said, I don't recall. I went over and I reported it to Mr. Snyder.
- Q. Okay. We had identified -- let me see if I can find it. Do you recall anything else that this lady told you other than what you've related today?
  - A. No. To the best of my recollection, that was it.
- Q. And did she tell you that what she had observed had made her upset?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And did she say that they were acting like boyfriend and girlfriend?
  - A. I couldn't recall if that's her exact words, but

A. Correct.

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- Q. Did Mr. Snyder say anything about Strey when you told him that, you know, someone called me about -- and said that Yarbenet and Strey were sitting apart and sitting on the same side of the table and it made the lady feel sort of nervous, did Mr. Snyder indicate that he knew Seesy or knew of her?
- A. He would have -- you know, being a student, he knew most of the students in the school, but I don't what he
  - Q. But you didn't know her; did you?
- A. To recall her now, no. But back in school, like I said, I really had no interaction with her.
- Q. Would it be possible that you might -- not -- that you might not even know -- associate her face with her name?
  - A. Correct.
- Q. So tell me what you recall about the meeting with Mr. Yarbenet.
- A. Mr. Snyder explained to him that I had received a phone call about the class trip. And then he asked me to ---I believe he asked me to tell Mr. Yarbenet what the lady had said and he wanted Mr. Yarbenet's explanation of what happened.
  - Q. And what did Mr. Yarbenet say?
  - A. He said that he and the disaffine family were

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it made her feel uneasy that they were sitting side by side.

- Q. Who was the sexual harassment officer at the school at that time?
  - A. That would have been myself.
- Q. Can you tell me what training you had concerning sexual harassment?
  - A. Really, none.
- Q. Okay. So the lady called you; do you know why the lady called you?
  - No, I don't.
  - Q. Was it Cynthia Scott?
  - A. I -- honestly, I can't recall.
  - Q. And so you went and talked to Mr. Snyder about it.
  - Correct.
  - Q. Tell me what Mr. Snyder said to you.
- He said we need to get Mr. Yarbenet down and have a meeting right away, and we did.
- Q. And I suppose that you related to Mr. Snyder the content of the conversation that you had with the lady?
  - Correct.
  - And did you meet with Mr. Yarbenet that same day?
- I can't recall if it was that afternoon or the next morning.
- Q. But it was -- the lady had specifically mentioned the student that she was concerned about was Stacy

friends outside of school and that State was like a -- he considered her a confidant. She helped him get over the death of his first wife, she listened to him as he spoke about it, and that's what he was doing that day.

- Q. Did that seem like a preposterous story to you?
- A. It -- I wouldn't have done that. I wouldn't have had a young student be a confidant to me, no.
- Q. I mean, did that raise any flags in your head that the teacher on any level was having an inappropriate relationship with this student?
  - A. It was definitely different, yes.
- Q. Teachers don't necessarily have a right to impose their psychological traumas and burdens on students; do they?
  - They shouldn't, no. A.
  - Did Mr. Yarbenet say anything else that day? Q.
- No. He -- well, he just said there was nothing inappropriate going on and basically that Sway was his close friend, and she Just listened to him when he was going through the grieving process about his wife. And that's about the best I can recall him saying.
  - Q. Did you understand when his wife died?
  - That happened before I came to Girard.
  - Did you ever meet his new wife?
  - Yes, i did.

A. Yes. ٥.

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Who was the mother of his son, the new wife or the old wife?

Document 32-6

- A. I'm not positive. I thought it was the second wife, but I'm not sure though.
- Q. So the first wife must have died some time ago because the son was 11 or 12 at that time, right?
- A. At that time, I believe he was in 6th grade -- or he ended up --- when I --- when he left, when Mr. Yarbenet left, I believe his son would have been in about 7th grade, somewhere in there.
- Q. After Mr. -- you confront Mr. Yarbenet with the statement made by the lady who called you and Mr. Yarbenet gives his defense, what's going on, what was said after that? Did anyone else talk at the meeting?
- A. Mr. Snyder just -- he told Mr. Yarbenet, you know, he should be careful because to people that don't know him or, you know, Street, it does not look good and he should not put himself in that position.
  - Q. So Mr. Snyder told him to be careful?
- A. Yeah, the best that I can recall. And he was not to be, you know, in that position anymore.
- Q. Was there any suggestion that you call Starty's mother and tell Stamy's mother what the lady had said to

about a 12-or-13-year-old girl being his confidant for his psychological problems; is that right?

A. True.

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- By any chance, after that meeting, did you have any conversations with any teachers to see if the teachers had observed anything inappropriate concerning Yarbenet's relationship with Suny?
  - Not that I recall, no. (McClelland Deposition Exhibit No. 1 marked for identification.)
- Q. I'm going to mark this as Exhibit No. 1. Mr. McClelland, you've probably never seen this, this is the police report that was generated in this case as a result of the police investigation. Maybe I shouldn't assume that you've never seen it, but have you ever seen it before?
  - A. I don't believe so, no.
- Q. Can you look at the document --- you can look at -take your time looking through this, if you want, I'm going to direct -- I'm going to ask you some questions from information that's on 1080, it's stamped here at the bottom, 1080; but you can take as much time as you want looking through the document.
  - A. (Witness reviews document.)
  - Have you had a chance to look at that?
  - (Witness nods head.)

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- I don't recall if he told me to do that or not.
- You didn't call Steay's mother; did you?
- A. Not that I recall, no.
- Q. You didn't call Strap's father?
- A.
- Q. And it was your impression, and I take it from this meeting, that what Ms. Scott was saying was that she was telling you that she had perceived the activities between Yarbenet and Steey, he was too close to her. I mean, it wasn't what a teacher would -- it wasn't conduct that you would think a teacher would engage in; is that right?

MR. DEVLIN: Object to the form, it assumes facts --

MR. OLDS: Just let him answer the question.

- Q. Is that right, Mr. McClelland?
- Because they were sitting side by side it made her
- Q. But that Yarbenet was doing something that a teacher shouldn't be doing, that's what upset her; is that
- A. She thought it was strange that he was sitting that close.
  - Q. And you thought it was strange that he talked

Q. I wanted to, I guess in particular, refer you to the part where Ms. Seneta was interviewed. I think you said that -- I forget whether you said that you knew Mr. Seneta before you came here.

- A. It was it's not her husband.
- It's a different Seneta?
- A. Yeah. She's married to this -- Mr. Seneta that was a teacher at the school, she's married to, I believe, it's his cousin.
- Q. I guess my question is: Did Ms. Seneta ever have any conversations with you in which she reported to you that she had seen things that made her uncomfortable?
- A. Not that I recall with her having a conversation with me, no.
- Q. Okay. You indicated, I guess, that after the meeting with Yarbenet, you didn't call Samy's mother or father, right?
  - A. Correct.
- Q. And you didn't investigate, you didn't talk to any other teachers or any other professionals to see if they had observed anything inappropriate with Yarbenet; is that right?
  - As best as I can recall, correct.
- You said that you might have been involved in another conversation with Yarbenet and Snyder, remember

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                  IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
 2
     STACY S; and JOHN and
 3
     MARY ELLEN S., on behalf
     of their daughter, LEIGH
 4
     ANN S., a minor,
                Plaintiffs
 5
                                    Civil Action No. 04-150E
 6
               vs.
     GIRARD SCHOOL DISTRICT;
 7
                                    HONORABLE SEAN J. MCLAUGHLIN
     ROBERT SNYDER,
 8
     Individually and in his
     capacity as Principal of
     the Rice Avenue Middle
 9
     School; and GREGORY
10
     YARBENET, a professional
     employee of the Girard
11
     School District,
                               : Jury Trial Demanded
               Defendants
12
13
               Deposition of ROBERT SNYDER, taken before and
14
          by Carol A. Holdnack, RPR, Notary Public in and for
          the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on Friday,
15
          April 8, 2005, commencing at 10:00 a.m., at the
          offices of Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C.,
16
          120 West Tenth Street, Erie, PA 16501.
17
     For the Plaintiffs:
18
          Edward A. Olds, Esquire
          Carolyn Spicer Russ, Esquire
19
          1007 Mount Royal Boulevard
20
          Pittsburgh, PA 15223
21
     For the Defendants:
          Richard A. Lanzillo, Esquire
22
          Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C.
          120 West Tenth Street
23
          Erie, PA 16501
24
                 Reported by Carol A. Holdnack, RPR
25
                  Ferguson & Holdnack Reporting, Inc.
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6-1

ever talk to Mr. Newson about anything pertaining to Gregory 1 Yarbenet after it was disclosed that he was molesting these 2 students? 3 No. Α. 4 Did you ever talk to him at all about Gregory Q. 5 Yarbenet molesting students? 6 No. A. 7 Would you have any idea what to look for in terms Q. 8 of detecting signs that a faculty member on your staff is a 9 pedophile? 10 MR. LANZILLO: Objection to form. Go ahead. 11 Not specifically a pedophile. 12 Can you think of any signs that you would look Q. 13 for, any signs or signals that might disclose that a staff 14 member is harassing a student, sexually harassing a student? 15 MR. LANZILLO: Objection to form. Go ahead. 16 I would look for reports from the student. A. 17 And can you think of anything else? Q. 18 No. A. 19 Now, how did you find out that Gregory Yarbenet Q. 20 was accused of molesting S 21 Our superintendent of schools, Mr. Blucas, A. 22 informed me. 23 And how did he inform you? Q. 24 He came into my office that morning and said that A. 25

Driving on Rice Avenue. A. 1 And did it occur to you that there might be Q. 2 something wrong with that situation? 3 No. Α. 4 Why not? Q. 5 Because I had seen Mrs. 6 Mr. Yarbenet at Rice Avenue Middle School previous to that. 7 And I -- Mr. Yarbenet had told me that he was getting rides 8 home from Mrs. at Elk Valley, and that he would walk 9 there. 10 When did he tell you that? Q. 11 I cannot put a date on it. A. 12 Then was he walking -- did he tell you that he was Q. 13 walking with Stary? 14 No, he said that he was walking to Elk Valley to 15 get a ride with Mrs. 16 You never talked to Mrs. to see whether it 17 was okay with her for Yarbenet to be alone with Stary, did 18 you? 19 Α. No. 20 Did you ever talk to Stary's father? Q. 21 A. 22 Did you ever talk to Laigh Am 's mother or father Q. 23 about whether it was appropriate for her to be with Yarbenet 24 alone? 25

1	A. No.
2	Q. Now, the police report did you ever see
3	Yarbenet with Stary in the hallways?
4	A. Not that I recall.
5	Q. What about with Laigh Am, did you ever see
6	Yarbenet talking and walking with Laigh Am in the hallways?
7	A. Not that I recall.
8	Q. Did you ever see him with students in the
9	hallways?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. What was his demeanor?
12	MR. LANZILLO: When?
13	Q. When you saw him with students in the hallways.
14	A. Well, generally, I would see him in the hallway
<b>1</b> 5	with students during class change. And all the teachers are
16	to be out in the hall at that time. So they're just
17	monitoring at that time.
18	Q. Okay. You never saw him walking with students in
19	the hallways; is that right? Walking with girl students in
20	the hallways, you never saw that?
21	A. No.
22	Q. And you never saw him did you ever see him hug
23	girl students?
24	A. Not that I recall, no.
25	Q. Was it a violation of any policy that you know of

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day off with silliness and jokes and that, then that was a disruption to the homeroom and would get the student body riled up at the beginning of the day in an inappropriate way, and that it was unacceptable.

- Q. Was that the tenor of the second conversation as well?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And the result was that you suspended the TV for a period of time?
  - A. Correct.
- Q. Now, there were a couple other instances that you can recall when you talked with him?
- A. I talked with him about the bar across the cabinet.
  - Q. What else?
- A. We talked about him -- or with him about -- on a school picture day, he had his school picture taken. And he put on a -- like a clown afro wig for it. And when the pictures came back, those same staff pictures were used for staff ID cards that year. That was when we were starting that. And I told him that that was unacceptable, that could not be used. And he had to have his picture retaken on the retake day so that he would have an appropriate staff photo ID.
  - Q. What other occasions do you recall talking to him?

A. There was a time when -- I don't even remember.

It was about the student resource center. I'm drawing a blank on what that is. I remember going to speak with him about it. It was the library then. It was shortly after the renovated school had opened. And his room was right next to there. I honestly -- I don't remember what that was about.

Let's see. Mr. McClelland and I met with him after the Pleasant Ridge field trip. And that is when, from the field trip, Mr. McClelland had a report that Greg and see -- and I don't remember the exact information because it came secondhand to me. But like sat separate from the group at lunchtime on a field trip. I think it was student council field trip to Pleasant Ridge Manor. So we talked to Greg about that too.

And I talked to him -- what I had also -- I already talked about was -- or had mentioned earlier, when I talked to him about the lights being off. That's all I'm recalling at this time.

- Q. Okay. The Pleasant Ridge field trip, you say that information -- there was information received third hand?
- A. Well, Mr. McClelland came to me with the information. As I recall, because we met with Greg in the morning. And as I recall it, I was at a conference at the intermediate unit or something that day and I was out of the

building. And so the next day when I came into -- you know, when school started, Mr. McClelland told me that he had this information about them sitting together at lunch by themselves, kind of removed from the group.

And so the first thing in the morning after teachers get there, they have common plan time before homeroom starts. So we called Greg down then and spoke to him about that.

- Q. What did Greg tell you? What was the information -- can you recall anything other than the fact that they had sat apart, Stary and Snyder had sat apart at lunchtime.
  - A. No, Stand Yarbenet.
  - Q. Yarbenet, I'm sorry. Had sat apart.
- A. That they sat apart from the group. That they were -- Start was in their group, in his group. They were always together during the day. That's pretty much --
- Q. Do you remember who the chaperones for that trip were?
- A. The only one I would know for sure is Donna Turton, now Donna Turton-Cole, because she was the student council adviser.
- Q. Did Gregg McClelland tell you where he got the information that he shared with you that prompted the meeting?

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1	A. I honestly don't remember that. I don't.
2	Q. Was it from a parent by the name of Cynthia Scott?
3	A. I don't remember that.
4	Q. And did you talk, then, about that incident? Did
5	you talk to anyone aside from Yarbenet?
6	A. No.
7	Q. And what did you tell Yarbenet?
8	A. What do you mean, what did I
9	Q. Well, what was the conversation between you?
10	A. I asked him what was up with this, what went on
11	here. And he explained that he and State and her family
12	were close friends, that they had gone through a lot
13	together. That Seasy and her family had helped him when he
14	had had his depression incidents. And that they were just
15	very close family friends. And they were just sitting
16	together. And I remember him saying, you know, others could
17	have joined us, but we sat at the table and nobody did,
18	nobody else joined us.
19	Q. Did you know on how many occasions had you met
20	with Stary's parents?
21	A. I have not met with Stary's parents.
22	Q. Yarbenet told you that State had helped him
23	through his depression?
24	A. Semand her family.
25	Q. Did he mention Start?

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1	A. See and her family, yes.
2	Q. And did it strike you as odd that a 50 what was
3	he, about 55 years old then?
4	A. I don't remember.
5	Q. 55-year-old man would say that a 13-year-old girl
6	had helped him through his depression?
7	MR. LANZILLO: Objection to form. It misstates
8	the prior testimony.
9	A. Again, he had said that Strang and her family had
10	helped him. And it did not strike me as odd because I had
11	seen Mrs. picking him up in the parking lot at the
 12	middle school before. And I had seen envelopes going back
13	and forth in interoffice mail between Mr. Yarbenet and
14	Mrs. And so in hearing that, it was a plausible
15	explanation.
16	Q. Well, I hear your answer saying that you had seen
17	Mr. Yarbenet with Start's mother and had seen letters going
18	back and forth between Mr. Yarbenet and Stary's mother. But
19	I didn't hear you say why you thought it was a plausible
20	explanation that a 13-year-old girl would help a
21	50-plus-year-old man through his depression. So what made
22	that plausible to you?
23	A. I didn't say that a 13-year-old girl helped him
24	through his depression.
25	Q. Well, he told you that, right?

MR. LANZILLO: Let the witness answer. I said that he said Semmy and her family.

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A.

And I'm asking you, did you find it plausible that Q. a 13-year-old girl would help a 50-plus-year-old man through depression?

> MR. LANZILLO: Objection. Asked and answered. You can try to change his answer as many times as you want, Ed.

- My understanding of what your question was, was it A. plausible, what the explanation he gave, was it plausible as to why he was sitting at a table alone with Starry. And to that, his explanation to me was plausible, yes. At no time did I ever infer or take from what he said or anything that Semmy alone was the one who helped him through his depression.
- Now, might this have been the occasion when he talked to you about his depression, or did he have a conversation with you about his depression on some other occasion?
- Well, I know it was at least referenced here, A. because he talked about the talked family helping him in that. But I know that in another discussion it had come up previously.
  - And going back to that discussion --Q.
  - Which discussion? Α.

1	Q. The first disc	ussion, the other discussion
2	A. Okay.	
3	Q where he ta	lked about his depression.
4	A. Um-hum.	
5	Q. What did he te	ll you then about his depression?
6	A. He said he was	experiencing depression, that he
7	hadn't gotten over the d	leath of his first wife. He was
8	still experiencing grief	over that. And that that, in turn,
9	was causing some marital	l strife between him and his second
10	wife.	in that conversation that
11	- [	te to you in that conversation that
12	•	
13	A. I don't recal	l.
14	<b>.</b>	ndicate to you that he was
15	5 considering or had cons	idered sulcider
16	6 A. Somewhere alc	ong the way, and in which discussion I
17	7 don't recall. But some	where along the way, he did reference
18	8 it, that he had previou	usly thought about suicide.
19	.9 Q. Did he say an	nything about Stary in connection with
20	that suicidal thought?	e
21	A. No.	thing about the
22		ack to this second thing about the
23	23 Pleasant Ridge inciden	<b>t.</b>
24	A. Okay.	on to pleasant Bidge incident. Okay?
25	Q. We'll just o	all it Pleasant Ridge incident. Okay?
	·	

Um-hum. Α. 1 What was it -- what did Mr. McClelland tell you Q. 2 that -- about the incident, that you thought it was 3 important enough to meet with Yarbenet about the incident? Well, let me just put it this way. Why did you think it was 5 important enough to talk to Yarbenet about that incident? 6 Because I wanted to find out what the situation A. 7 was. You know, student council is there as a group. 8 were they isolated. 9 Did Mr. McClelland tell you that he had Q. 10 information that Seas and Yarbenet acted like 11 boyfriend/girlfriend on that student council trip? 12 No, I don't remember that. A. 13 Did he tell you that he had information that they Q. 14 had acted inappropriately on that student council trip? 15 No. A. 16 Do you recall a conversation with Yarbenet Q. 17 where -- that involved him being on the bus or tying up the 18 buses after the end of school? 19 No. Α. 20 Do you recall a conversation with Yarbenet where 0. 21 he was on the bus with Standard and the buses couldn't 22 leave on time? 23 A. No. 24 Do you recall a conversation that you had with . Q. 25

Mr. Yarbenet where you told him he was not to go on those buses? No. A. 3 Did you ever see him on the bus, or at dismissal Q. 4 time get on the bus, when Start was on the bus, on a 5 bus that Semilar was on? 6 No, I have absolutely no recollection of that. A. 7 MR. LANZILLO: Just for the record, Ed, my 8 understanding is, looking at those, that they're 9 actually separate letters. I don't want you to be 10 under the mistaken impression that's a single 11 letter. 12 MR. OLDS: Okay. Well, I only see one letter 13 here. So maybe -- why don't we get copies of it 14 so we can talk about it, okay. 15 THE WITNESS: Can I look at it real quick, so I'll 16 recognize it. 17 MR. OLDS: Sure. We're going to get copies. 18 THE WITNESS: Okay. 19 MR. LANZILLO: Maybe it is just one. 20 DR. MAYNARD: I think we asked for one copy of the 21 first letter. 22 MR. LANZILLO: Could you have Ann fax that. There 23 was another letter that came in? 24 DR. MAYNARD: Um-hum. 25

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1	Q. And when did you get your master's?
2	A. 1988.
3	Q. And when did you get your administrative
4	certificate?
5	A. 1990.
6	Q. And how about the superintendent certificate?
7	A. I believe 2002.
8	Q. And what did you what kind of classes did you
9	have to take to get the administrative certificate?
10	You take school finance, human resources, school
11	plant, collective bargaining, curriculum development.
12	o Okav.
13	A. That's pretty much it, because they accepted my
14	credits from my master's, so it was just beyond my master's
15	to get the additional certification.
16	Q. And then you started working at Girard School
17	District in 1988?
18	A. No, 1984.
19	Q. 1984. As a teacher?
20	A. Yes.
21	Q. What did you teach?
22	A. I taught sixth, seven and eighth grade math.
23	
24	A. Rice Avenue Middle School.
25	and then you became a counselor in

G-14

1 A. No.

- Q. Tell me, beginning in 1984 when you started -when you started at Girard Area School District, what -what training the School District provided, that you
  attended, that dealt with sexual harassment.
- A. I know that there was a training when a new harassment policy went in, in the mid 1990s. The superintendent's office arranged an in-service program for all School District staff on sexual harassment.
  - Q. And who conducted that program?
- A. It was a consultant out of Cleveland. I don't remember her name.
- Q. And what other training did you attend concerning sexual harassment?
  - A. I believe that is all.
- Q. And what -- and did the School District ever provide any training on pedophilia, to your knowledge?
  - A. No.
- Q. Do you remember the topics that were discussed in that in-service training about sexual harassment?
- A. It had mostly to do with how to handle complaint processes.
- Q. Was there any instruction given as to signs or signals that staff might look for to see if it was occurring, at that seminar?

## DEPOSITION

of ROBIN SENETA, taken pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, by and before Candance L. Messich, a Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at the offices of KNOX, McLAUGHLIN, GORNALL & SENNETT, 120 West 10th Street, Erie, Pennsylvania, 16501, on Thursday, March 24, 2005, commencing at 11:50 a.m.

·Also Present:

Same Same

Robert Snyder

Dean Maynard

H-1

## **MAXINE JACOBY & ASSOCIATES**

ALLEGHENY BUILDING SUITE 720 429 FORBES AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA. 15219

(412) 765-3133

FAX (412) 765-2704

		- toughing
1		rules concerning faculty members touching
2		students?
3	A	No specific written rule.
4	· Q	Did you touch students?
5	Α	I don't.
6	Q	I think you indicated that you were not often
7		in Mr. Yarbenet's classroom?
8	A	No.
9	Q	Did Mr. Yarbenet make you nervous?
10	A	No.
11	Q	Did you ever see or observe Mr. Yarbenet do
12		something that you thought and I'm talking
13		relative to a student, and I'm not asking for
14		a generalized norm or anything like that, I'm
15		trying to get your impressions did you
16		ever see him do anything that you thought was
17		improper or unprofessional or inappropriate
18		relative to students?
		MR. LANZILLO: Objection to form.
19		THE WITNESS: That's very vague.
20		Could you be more specific?
21		MR. OLDS: Well, sure.
22	•	Did you ever see him do anything can you
23	Q	recall seeing him do something that you
24		thought, well, I would never do that?
25		thought, weir, i would be

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		18
1		MR. LANZILLO: Objection to form.
2		THE WITNESS: Yes.
3	· Q	Tell me what kind of things you saw of that
4		nature.
5	A	Walk home with students, drive students home,
. 6		put themselves in a one-on-one situation with
7		any student in a classroom without anyone
8		else there.
9	Q	You observed him one-on-one with
10		see, is that right?
11	A	Yes.
12	. Q	On more than one occasion?
13	·	Yes.
14	Q	Did you ever see him walk home with her?
15	A	Not to my specific recollection.
16	Q	Did you ever see him drive her home?
17	A	I saw her in his car.
18	Q	You saw him walk home with students. Do you
19		recall which students he walked home with?
20	Ä	Many.
21	Q	Were they always female?
22	·A	No.
23	Q	No?
24	A	No.
25	Q	How many times do you think did you ever

. 1		see him one-on-one with Leigh Ame
2	A	No.
3	· Q	How many times do you think that you saw him
4		one-on-one with Semmy
5	A	I can't answer that.
6	Õ	Would it be numerous times?
7	A	Yes, that's fair.
8	Q	And what parts of the day or on what
9		occasions might you see that?
10	A	Any time of the day, before homeroom,
11		sometimes after school. She did TV studio
12	•	with him, the morning news. She often would
13		be coming from her, I assume, study hall in
14		his classroom while he had class.
15	Q	But you saw her one-on-one with him. Does
16		that mean that his class wasn't in the room?
17	A	Not always.
18	Q	You indicated that you would see her
19		one-on-one with him in the morning before
20		homeroom, is that right?
21	,A	Yes.
22	Q	The TV studio, was that near his science
23		room?
24	A	No.
25	Q	So that was a different part of the building?

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1	A	Yes.
2	Q	Before homeroom, where would you see them
3	•	together one-on-one?
4	A	Sometimes in his classroom, sometimes in the
5		back room, sometimes in the hallway.
6	Q	And how was it well, tell me, if you can,
7		did you see him numerous times with her in
8		the back room?
9	A	Several.
10	Q	What were they doing? How did you happen to
11		be in the back room when they were in the
12	•	back room?
13	A	Walked back to put something away, to look
14		for something. I kept movies back there,
15		things like that. It's a storage facility
16		for both of our classrooms.
17	Q	When you would walk in, what would you
18		observe?
19	A	Talking.
20.	Q	Well, how close were they?
21	A	Side by side.
22	Q	Did you ever see him with his hands on her?
23	A	No.
24	Q	Did you ever see him hug her?
25		MR. LANZILLO: In the storage room

1		or at any time?
2		MR. OLDS: Or anywhere.
3		MR. LANZILLO: Okay.
4		THE WITNESS: Probably.
5	Q	Tell me what you thought about them being
6		together one-on-one in the storage room.
7	A	They were friends outside of school.
8	Q	And how did you know that?
9	A	He would tell me that.
10	Q	So you talked to him about your observations
11		of seeing him one-on-one with her?
12	A	He talked to me about it.
13	Q	So would that be when you walked in on them
14		or would that be on other occasions?
15	A	Usually possibly after I saw them together.
16	Q	And this would be something that he would
17		volunteer to you?
18	A	Yes.
19	Q	And tell me what he would say to you.
20	A	He would tell me how close their family was
21	•	with her family. He would tell me that they
22		do things with the families together on the
23		weekends. He had mentioned that they went
24		several things. I can remember a specific
25		trip they went on one not a trip. I

1		shouldn't say trip. No trip. Local places
2		that they would go on weekends.
3	Q	You indicated that you weren't social friends
4		with him, is that right?
5	A	Correct.
6	Q	When he would come and tell you these kinds
7	~	of things, would it make you wonder why is he
8		telling me this?
9	A	No.
10	Q	And so you never wondered why he would be
11		sharing that information with you?
12	A	No.
13	Q	Did you ever talk to Mr. Snyder about your
14		observations of seeing them one-on-one?
15	A	Of seeing
16	Q	Seasy and Yarbenet together in the storage
17		room or in his classroom alone.
18	A	No.
19	Q	You never mentioned that to Mr. Snyder?
20	A	No.
21	Q	Did you ever talk to Mr. Snyder at all about
22		Gregory Yarbenet?
23	· A	Yes.
24	Q	Tell me what you talked to him about.
25	A	That there were students in the back room,
د ت		

1		many students often, loud, and that
2		Mr. Yarbenet had put a bar across the
, 3		cabinets that he adhered down with metal
4		things, and that students would be hanging
5		from that and just spend time in the back
6		room, many students, many times. I had
. 7		things back there that were worth value, and
8		I didn't want them back there unsupervised.
· 9	Q	How many times do you think that you talked
10		to Mr. Snyder about that?
.11	A	Once or twice.
12	Q ·	Did the school district sponsor any
13		in-service or training on pedophilia?
14	A	No.
. 15	Q	In your experience learning how to become a
16		teacher, you know, in your education, did you
17		learn anything about the profile of a
18		pedophile?
19	A	Not off the top of my head.
20	Q	Do you know anything about pedophiles?
21	A	I do.
22	Q	What do you know about pedophiles?
23	A	That they prey on small children, young
24		children.
25	Q	But you don't know anything about the signs

		'a a look out for, for
1		that maybe you should look out for, for
2		instance, as a teacher to know whether
3		there's a pedophile on the staff?
4	Α.	Specific signs? Do you want me to list
5		specific signs?
6	Q	Well, do you know any?
7	A	That you would probably see them touching
8		inappropriately, that they would try to
9		coerce students to build trust in them, try
10		to coerce students into inappropriate
11		situations.
12	Q	And how many years did you observe Yarbenet
13		and State in the back room alone
14	•	together? What period of time did that span?
15	A	Maybe year and a half.
16	Q	Was Stary in your you taught 8th grade
17		science?
18	A	Yes.
19	.Q	And so was she a student in your science
20		class?
21	A	Yes.
22	Q	How was she as a student?
23	A	Good.
24	Q	Did Yarbenet ever come into your classroom
25		while she was there and take her out of your

		•
1		classroom?
2	A	I honestly can't remember. I wouldn't let
3		him take students from the classroom if he
4		wanted any of them. I had issues with that.
5	Q	What were your issues with that?
6	A	It was my classroom time.
· 7	Q	Did he frequently try to take students out of
8		your classroom?
· 9	A	I don't know if he did.
10	Q	By any chance, do you recall what period you
.11		had Start?
12	, A ·	No.
13	Q .	And you don't recall whether she ever gave
14		you a pass or asked you to be excused so she
.15		could be with Yarbenet?
16	A	Many students did that.
17	Q	And you wouldn't let that happen?
18	A	No.
19	Q	When you would see S in his classroom
20		and I think you differentiated that sometimes
21		she would be one-on-one with him in the
22		storage room, right?
23	A	Yes.
24	Q	And then sometimes she would be one-on-one
25		with him in his classroom, is that correct?

H-10

1		saw in that car?
2	A	No.
3	Q	When you walked into his room to use the room
4		as a shortcut, did you ever walk in when the
5		lights were off?
6	A	Well, yes. He might not have even been there
. 7		sometimes if I got there before him, you
8		know.
· 9	· Q	What about when he was there with State, did
10		you ever observe him in the room with the
11		lights off?
12	A·	Not with the lights off.
13	Q	The door between his room and the hallway,
14		was it ever covered with material so that it
.15		wasn't transparent, the glass?
16	A	Yes.
17	Q	What kind of things did you see covering the
18		door?
19	A	Posters.
20	Q	Do you ever recall a time when your entrance
21		either into the storage area or his classroom
22		was obstructed?
23	A	Obstructed how?
24	Q	In other words, did you ever push on the
25		door did you open the door into your

4-11

1		classroom or open the door into the storage
2		room?
3	A	Probably.
4	Q	Which one?
5	A	I mean, opening it into the storage room.
6	Q	Did you ever approach the storage room door
7		and find that it was obstructed so that it
8		didn't open easily?
9	· A	Didn't open?
10	Q	Easily.
11	A	Probably.
12	Q	Did you find out why it hadn't opened easily?
13	A	Sometimes our doors when they open kind of
14		lock each other (indicating).
1.5		MR. LANZILLO: The witness is
16		motioning with her hands indicating, I
17		believe, that the doors run into each other
18		and collide.
19	•	THE WITNESS: Yes.
20	Q	So if the door to his classroom were open,
21		you might not be able to open the door from
22		your classroom into the storage room easily
23		without having contact between the two doors?
24	A	Right.
25	Q.	On those occasions, did you ever experience

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1		that situation when Starty was in the storage
2		room with Yarbenet?
3	A	Not that I recall.
4	Q	And I think that you indicated that you never
5		saw Lange in that storage room with
6		Yarbenet?
7	A	Never.
8	Q	Did you ever see her one-on-one in his
· 9		classroom?
10	A	I didn't know who Laigh Am was until after
11		all this. I wouldn't have recognized her
12		from any other student.
13	Q	Well, did you ever see him one-on-one with
14		any other girls besides Stacy?
.15	А	I guess yes. I would have to say yes.
16	Q	Who are the other girls?
17	A	Nobody specific that I can remember, just the
18	•	students.
19	Q	One-on-one, though, alone?
20	A	At the desk talking about something or
21		walking through the hall from class to class,
22		yes.
23		MR. OLDS: Just make this part
24		confidential here.
25		(Whereupon, the transcript is

		43
1		superintendent, Mr. Snyder, various questions
2		regarding Mr. Yarbenet.
3	Q	So that was the first that you learned that
4		he had been arrested, when you had that
5		meeting with Mr. Snyder?
6	A	Yes.
· 7	Q	There were two police officers there?
8	·	Yes.
٠9	Q	Were you given the chance to like call up
10		your union representative or anything like
11		that?
12	. A	No.
13	Q	And so who conducted who all was present
14		there? Was it Mr. Snyder?
1,5	A	Mr. Blucas, Mr. Bucho and somebody else,
16		another police officer. I can't recall who
17	•	it was.
18	Q	And have you ever seen the police officer's
19		report of the statement that you gave?
20	A	Yes. No, I haven't seen it.
21	Q	Did you provide a written statement?
22	A	I did.
23		MR. OLDS: Maybe we can mark that
24		as an exhibit, since we did it generically,
. 25		why don't we just call this Exhibit 2.

	_		3.2
	1		(Whereupon, Deposition Exhibit No.
	2		2 was marked for identification.)
			MR. LANZILLO: Ed, what are you
	3		going to do, just all of your exhibits number
	4		sequentially from deponent to deponent?
	5		MR. OLDS: Well, today I will just
	6		because I'm going to refer to Exhibit 1 with
	7 .		all of them. Just so it's not confusing.
	8		all of them.
	9	Q	Is this a statement that you wrote?
	10	A	It is.
	11	Q	One thing that you say in this statement that
	12		you wrote for the police, and I guess I'm
	13	4	about the fourth sentence down, you say, "I
	14		stated that Mr. Yarbenet had (what I
	15		considered to be) an inappropriate
	16		teacher-student relationship with her. By
	17		this I meant that I found it odd on several
	18		occasions to find them conferring or meeting
/	19		behind closed doors before or after school in
	20		the room that connects both his and my room.
			I also discussed the fact that although I did
	21		find them in these uncomfortable situations,
	22		that I had never witnessed or believed that
	23		there was any physical inappropriateness
	24		involved. Mr. Yarbenet always seemed to
	25		involved. Mi. 2022

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1		justify these actions by explaining that the
		families were close and that they were good
2		friends, end quote.
3		And so you wrote that, is that
4		right?
5	_	I did.
6	A	And when you wrote this, you indicated to the
7	Q	·
8		police that you thought it was an
.9		inappropriate teacher-student relationship?
10	A	In my definition.
1.1	Q	And what is that definition?
12	A .	That he would put himself in a situation that
13		I wouldn't.
14	Q	And you say you found it odd to find them
1,5		conferring or meeting behind closed doors
16		before or after school in the room that
17	•	connects both his and my room. Is there like
18		a table in that storage room or
19	A	No.
20	Q	So they would just be in that room?
21	A	Standing, talking.
22	Q	So you did find that odd that they would be
23	_	in that room as opposed to maybe his
24		classroom, is that right?
25		I mean, that was odd for them to be

 	-	46
1		in that room? You wrote it was odd. You
2		say, "I found it odd on several occasions to
3		find them conferring or meeting behind closed
4		doors before or after school in the room that
5		connects both his and my room." So you
6		thought it was odd when you wrote this,
7	•	right?
8	A	odd.
9	Q	And did you think that it was odd when you
10		observed it?
11		I mean, you thought it was odd when
12		you wrote it. You didn't observe it when you
13		wrote this document, Exhibit 2, you had
14		observed it earlier, right?
15	A	Correct.
16	. Q	So did you find it out odd when you had
17	~ ,	observed it?
18	A	That's fair.
19	•	MR. OLDS: Let me mark this as
20		Exhibit 3.
21		(Whereupon, Deposition Exhibit No.
22		3 was marked for identification.)
22	Q	This is a supplemental police report. This
24	*	is a report that the police officer wrote,
25	-	and I guess my first question would be have
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1		you ever seen this document before?
2	A	I haven't read it.
3	Q	But have you seen it?
4	A	I saw it.
5	Q	When did you see it?
6	A	On Monday.
· 7·	Q	But you didn't read it or you haven't had
8		occasion to read it since then?
.9	A	No.
10	Q	Aside from seeing this report on Monday, did
11		you look at any were you shown any other
12		documents on Monday?
13	A	No.
14	Q	So just this one?
1,5	A	I wasn't shown this.
16	Q	So you just saw it in the sense that, for
17		instance, it was held up and you could see
18		the sheet of paper?
19	A	Yes.
20	Q	And was this the only document in that
21		fashion that you saw or were shown when you
22		met with Mr. Lanzillo?
23	A	Yes.
24	Q	I would just have a couple questions here.
25		Your statement appears approximately maybe

1		halfway down or two-thirds of the way down
2		where it says
3		MR. LANZILLO: Let me enter an
4		objection. This is not a statement. It is a
5		report.
6	. Q	The report of your statement, and it begins
7		at 1005, Ms. Robin Seneta was interviewed.
8		Do you see that on that sheet of paper?
9	A.	I do. I do.
10	Q	Let me just read this, and then I can ask you
11		some questions, and this is obviously what
12		the police officer is writing. He didn't ask
13		you to sign this statement. The police
14		officer wrote that you indicated that
15	_	Yarbenet was in the room separating the two
16		with the victim often. Do you think that you
17		said that to the police officer who took this
.18		report?
19	A	I doubt I said often.
20	Q	But you did say you saw them together alone
21		on numerous occasions here today?
22	A	Several occasions.
23	Q	In the room several occasions. On numerous
24		occasions you saw them alone, is that what
25	:	you said?

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		4 9
1	A	I saw them together.
2	Q	Alone together? The two of them alone
3		together?
4		MR. LANZILLO: Are you asking wha
5		she said today?
6		MR. OLDS:. Yes.
7		MR. LANZILLO: Objection. The
8		testimony will speak for itself.
ė	Q	Do you recall saying that you observed them
10		on numerous occasions alone together,
11		one-on-one together?
12	A	· I saw them together.
13	Q	On numerous occasions, is that right?
14	A	I don't think I put a certain number to it.
1,5	Q	Well, the record will speak for itself.
16	•	You're quoted as saying
17		MR. LANZILLO: Objection. She's
18		not quoted at all.
19	Q	The report says that you said, and I'm
20		quoting the report, the two were very close
21		Close in that they were close together, end
22		quote. Now, the report says that. Did you
23		make some statement such as that to the
24		police officer when he interviewed you?
25	A	I said that they were close friends of the

H-21

		30
1		family, that they had a close friendship.
2	Q	So the language they were close together, you
3		weren't talking about a physical do you
4		recall whether you talked about seeing them
5		physically close or close together when you
6		
7	A	I recall them asking me if I ever thought
8		they were physically close, and I did not see
9		them in any physically close situation.
10	Q	So in this report, you would say that the
11		officer got it wrong when he wrote that you
12		said, quote, the two were very close. Close
13		in that they were close together, end quote.
14		So today under oath, what you're doing is
15	,	you're saying that you did not make that
16	-	statement to the officer?
17	A	I am saying that I said that they were close.
18	Q	Were you talking about physically
19	A	No.
20	Q	That you saw them physically close together?
21	A	No.
22	Q	But you did see them physically close
23	•	together on many times, didn't you?
24	A	I saw them standing side by side. Whether
25		that's defined as physically close, I

H-22

		51
1	Q	We'll let the testimony stand that you saw
2	d.	them standing side by side, and someone could
3		make a decision whether that's close or not.
4	· A	Okay.
5	•	MR. LANZILLO: We should also let
6		the witness finish her answers, too.
7		MR. OLDS: Okay.
8	Q	The police officer reports you as saying,
9		quote, Seneta indicated that when she entered
10		she felt as if she were interrupting
11		something, end quote. Did you say something
12		to that effect to the police officer?
13	A	Interrupting conversation.
14	Q	So when he writes interrupting something,
15		what you said was interrupting conversation,
16		is that right?
17	A	Correct.
18	Q	That's what your recollection is today?
19	A	Yes.
20	Q	Did you feel that you were interrupting
21		something when you entered into the room,
22	•	into the storage room and you would find the
23		two of them before school alone?
24		MR. LANZILLO: Objection to form.
25		Conversation is something. If you're asking

52 1 her if it's something else --MR. OLDS: Hey, you know what, you 2 can object to form. Make your objection. 3 Please don't make an argument on the record. 4 Don't tell her how to answer the question. 5 6 MR. LANZILLO: I'm not, but 7 objection to form. MR. OLDS: Make your objection, and 8 then let her answer the question. 9 10 THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the 11 question? 12 MR. OLDS: Sure. When you entered the room, the storage room 13 Q and found them there alone in the morning, no 14 one else there, did you feel that you were 15 16 interrupting something? MR. LANZILLO: Objection to form. 17 18 Vague and ambiguous. THE WITNESS: I was interrupting 19 20 their conversation. Did you feel uncomfortable when you entered 21 Q that room and found them alone together? Did 22 ` you feel uncomfortable when you entered that 23 24 room and found them in there? 25 Α Because I had walked in on their

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H-24

1		53
	_	conversation, yes.
2	Q	And what we're talking about is the
3		conversation of a 57-year-old man and a
4		12-year-old girl, is that right? That's the
5		conversation that we're talking about?
6	A	Yes.
7	Q	He was in his 50s, right?
8	A	I guess. I don't know. He didn't have a
9		birthday.
10	Q	He quotes you as saying she felt that they
1,1		had an inappropriate student-teacher
12		relationship, and you wrote that yourself, so
13		that quote is right, is that correct?
. 14	A	Say that again.
1,5	Q	He quotes you as saying that, quote, they had
16		an inappropriate student-teacher
17		
18		relationship, end quote. He got your
19		statement right when he wrote that, is that
		correct?
20	A	Partially.
21	•	MR. LANZILLO: Objection to form.
22		Nothing in this report is quoted. I will
23		agree with you that the words inappropriate
24		relationship appear in both documents.
25		
		MR. OLDS: Good.

H-25

		54
1	Q	And he reports, the police officer who made
2		this report, states that you, quote
. 3		MR. LANZILLO: You're quoting the
4		record?
5		MR. OLDS: I'm quoting his record.
6		MR. LANZILLO: That's fine.
7	Q	He says that you, quote, observed this
8		activity every morning before homeroom, end
9		quote. Did you tell him that you observed it
10		every morning?
11	A	No.
12	Q	He says that you told him, the police
13		officer, that when you, quote, entered the
14		room, Yarbenet would always try to justify
15		what they were doing, end quote. Did you
16		make that statement to the officer that
17		Yarbenet would always try to justify what
18		they were doing?
19	A	Not when I entered the room.
20	Q.	So it would be a different time when he would
21		justify what he was doing, he would approach
22		you at a different time and try to explain
23		his conduct?
24	A	He would approach me shortly after.
25	Q	
	~	And as you look back on it, that didn't make